

Removal-from-Sport Protocol

Designated Person(s)

In accordance with the requirements set out in Rowan's Law and its associated regulation, Skate Ontario is required to identify a designated person(s) as having specific responsibilities under the Removal-from-Sport and Return-to-Sport Protocols. The responsibilities for the designated person(s) may be shared between one or more individuals. Each designate must be clear about who has what responsibility under the Removal-from-Sport and Return-to-Sport Protocols.

Under the Removal-from-Sport Protocol for Skate Ontario the designated person(s) is/are responsible for ensuring:

- A skater is immediately removed from further training, practice, or competition if the skater has sustained a concussion or is suspected of having sustained a concussion, regardless of whether or not the concussion was sustained from a sport activity associated with Skate Ontario
- If in the opinion of the designated person(s), there is an emergency and/or any red flag signs and/or symptoms appear – including those resulting from a suspected concussion, call 911
- Removal of the skater from further training, practice, or competition; and if the skater is under 18 years of age, the parent or guardian is informed of the removal
- The skater, or the parent or guardian if the skater is under 18 years of age, is advised that the skater is required to undergo a medical assessment by a physician or nurse practitioner before the skater will be permitted to return to training, practice or competition according to the Return-to-Sport Protocol for Skate Ontario
- A skater or, if the skater is under 18 years of age, the skater's parent or guardian receives the Removal-from-Sport and Return-to-Sport Protocols for Skate Ontario as soon as possible after the skater's removal
- Once removed, the skater is not permitted to return to training, practice or competition, except in accordance with the Skate Ontario Return-to-Sport Protocol

The following outlines a process for immediate removal of a skater who is suspected of having sustained a concussion:

1. Remove the Skater
 - Designated person(s) to immediately remove the skater from further training, practice or competition if the skater has sustained a concussion or is suspected of having sustained a concussion regardless of whether the concussion or suspected concussion was sustained from an activity associated with Skate Ontario.
2. Call 9-1-1 if Emergency
 - Designated person(s) to call 9-1-1 if in their opinion, doing so is necessary (e.g., if there is an emergency and any red flag signs and/or symptoms appear)
3. Inform
 - If the skater is under 18 years of age, designated person(s) to inform the skater's parent or guardian about the removal from further training, practice or competition

A medical assessment determines whether the skater has a concussion. A skater will not be permitted to return to training, practice or competition until they receive medical clearance by a physician or nurse practitioner to do so.

- Designated person(s) to advise the skater, or the parent or guardian if the skater is under 18 years of age, that the skater is required to undergo a medical assessment by a physician or nurse practitioner before the skater will be permitted to return to training, practice or competition.

4. Give Protocols
 - Designated person(s) to provide the skater or, if the skater is under 18 years of age, the skater's parent or guardian with the Skate Ontario Removal-from-Sport and Return-to-Sport Protocols as soon as possible after the skater has been removed from further training, practice or competition
5. Record the Incident
 - Make and keep a record of incidences where a skater is removed from further training, practice or competition because they are suspected of having sustained a concussion regardless of whether the skater is later diagnosed with a concussion
 - The incident must be reported to Skate Canada, and copied to Skate Ontario, in accordance with the Skate Canada Incidents of Injury Reporting and Management Policy and supporting procedure. This information will be kept on file by Skate Ontario in accordance with the Skate Ontario Records Retention Policy
6. Returning to Training, Practice or Competition
 - Once removed, the skater is not permitted to return to training, practice or competition, except in accordance with the Skate Ontario Return-to-Sport Protocol